News Release

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EDMONTON 2007
CULTURAL CAPITALE CAPITAL CULTURELLE of CANADA de CANADA

City road crews readying streets for Monday morning commute

Edmonton, April 20, 2008 – City of Edmonton roadway maintenance crews, anticipating this weekend's storm, have been working all weekend sanding and clearing as much snow as possible off roads.

"Long before the winter storm warning was issued by Environment Canada, the Transportation Department had more than 60 units out working on Edmonton streets," said Randy Kilburn, Department spokesperson. "Our units will continue to work on the arterial routes the rest of today as well as tonight."

Beginning at 7 p.m. Sunday, as many as 100 City units will be on the main arterials sanding and plowing until 7 a.m. Monday. Following that 12-hour period, between 55 and 65 units will remain on the streets sanding and plowing, Kilburn emphasized.

The City has also put out the call to all 140 contractors who worked on the snow removal program this winter, and have asked as many of the contractors that are available to report to their designated areas as of midnight.

"This is an all out effort to make sure Edmonton's commuters get to their destinations as quickly as possible Monday morning, given the weather conditions," stressed Kilburn.

"Crews would much rather be out sweeping sand from the streets and collecting so that it can be recycled for use next winter, but that's obviously not the case this weekend," Kilburn said. "Our goal remains to complete the cleaning of 4,700 km of City streets by the end of May. But for now, we're working to keep Edmonton moving during this nasty storm."

The 2008 snow program budget is just slightly more than $56 million, of which $9 million is used for the sand recycling portion. It costs approximately $100,000 per day to sand and plow Edmonton's streets during a storm like the one we're experiencing this weekend.

"The silver lining in all this," Kilburn suggested, "is that it is the end of April, the temperature will climb, this storm will pass and the snow's going to melt a lot more quickly than it might in February or March."

Further updates will be provided throughout the next few days.

- 30 -

About Edmonton:

This is a city alive with energy and boundless opportunity - a growing economic powerhouse where business thrives and more than a million lives enjoy the freedom to explore, experiment, experience, excel and expect the most out of every day. A place like no other, Edmonton is filled with surprises great and small and a calendar packed with artistic, sporting, theatrical and cultural celebration.

For more information on Edmonton, please visit our website at: www.edmonton.ca.

For additional information, contact:

Randy Kilburn
Communications
Transportation Department
780-496-2812
780-940-9438 (cell)

THE CITY OF Edmonton